

Status of Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) Services for Older Adults

To meet requests of federal and state officials, the Senior Tar Heel Legislature, our partners and stakeholders, the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) has surveyed the statewide network of Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) providers to assess service needs and learn about issues facing the service delivery system. DAAS has surveyed the network six times since February 2009, most recently in March 2014. Statewide 315 providers were contacted, 254 responded (81%).

The High Country Council of Governments, Region D serves 7 counties: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey.

9 of the 9 county-level HCCBG providers responded, for a response rate of 100%

Results

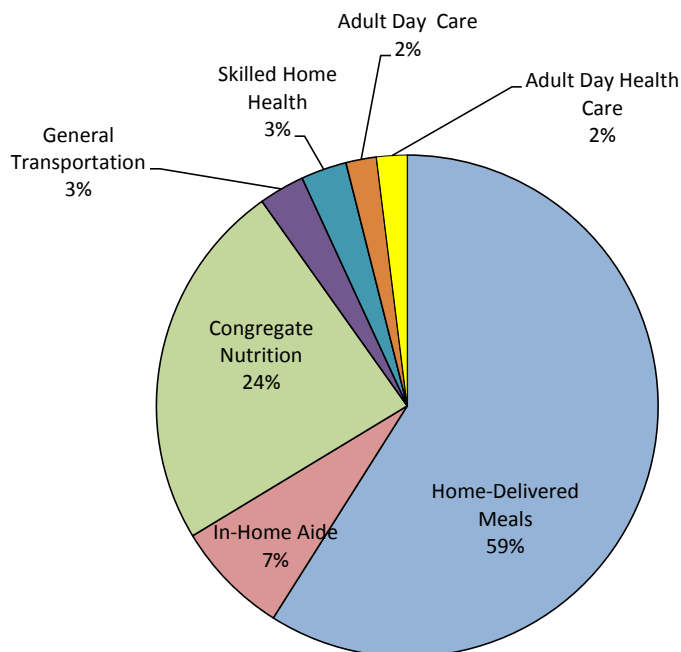
86% of Information & Assistance providers reported increase in requests for services; Additionally, 71% said that the community resources to which they can refer clients have decreased

86% of the Senior Centers are experiencing an increased demand for programs and services

407 seniors were reportedly waiting for home and community services; when projecting responses to 100%, there was an estimated number of 787 individuals on the waiting list

Number of seniors on the waiting list by service

Service	# Waiting
Home-Delivered Meals	240
In-Home Aide	30
Congregate Nutrition	97
General Transportation	12
Skilled Home Health	12
Adult Day Care	8
Adult Day Health Care	8



What some Region D providers are doing to promote efficiencies and meet challenges:

In-Home Aide: 86% are prioritizing applicants and 71% are reassessing clients to identify those whose services can be reduced or ended; 57% are reducing the number of hours of in-home aide service; 43% are not adding new clients when an existing client ends service

Housing & Home Improvement: 100% are prioritizing applicants; 100% are using volunteers to help assist

Home-Delivered Meals: 57% are prioritizing applicants and 57% are not adding a new client when an existing client ends service

Current challenges regarding funding and volunteerism

44% said that the number of volunteers have gotten smaller

44% said that county government funds have decreased

56% said that consumer contributions, private and corporate donations have decreased

About the Home and Community Care Block Grant

Established in 1992 under NCGS 143B-181.1(a)(11), the HCCBG was devised to provide a "common funding stream" for a comprehensive and coordinated system of home and community-based services and opportunities for older adults. HCCBG services are available to people age 60 and older, although the "average" client is nearly 80 and the program targets individuals who are socially and economically needy.

HCCBG is administered through the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Area Agencies on Aging. It combines federal and state funds with a local match, and it gives county commissioners discretion in budgeting and administering aging funds.

HCCBG Services at a Glance (Services offered in Region D are bolded in this list)

Adult day care and day health care

Respite

Information & assistance

Congregate and home-delivered meals

Senior centers

Housing and home repair

Health promotion and disease prevention

Care management

In-home aide services

General and medical transportation

Senior companion

Health screenings

Skilled home health